CLAIMS

[c1] 1. In a communication device operating in a group communication network, a method for putting the communication device into a dormant mode, the method comprising:

determining whether the communication device has been inactive for a predetermined time period; and

causing the communication device to enter the dormant mode if it is determined that the communication device has been inactive for the predetermined time period.

- [c2] 2. The method of claim 1 further including:
 maintaining sufficient connection for the communication device for sending an out-of-dormant request.
 - 3. The method of claim 1, wherein the communication device may ignore a godormant order.
 - 4. The method of claim 1, further including: informing each participating communication device in the network that the net is put in the dormant mode.
 - 5. In a communication device operating in a group communication network, a method for putting the communication device into a dormant mode, the method comprising:

receiving a command to enter a dormant mode; and

releasing a traffic channel associated with the communication device in response to the command.

- [c6] 6. The method of claim 5 further including:

 maintaining sufficient connection for the communication device for sending an out-ofdormant request.
- [c7] 7. The method of claim 5, wherein the communication device may ignore a godormant order.

[c11]

- 8. The method of claim 5, further including:
- informing each participating communication device in the network that the net is put in the dormant mode.
- [c9] 9. In a communication device operating in a group communication network, a method for bringing the communication device out of a dormant mode, comprising:

receiving a floor-control request; and

bringing the communication device out of the dormant mode if the request is granted.

[c10] 10. In a communication device operating in a group communication network, a computer-readable medium embodying a method for putting the communication device into a dormant mode, the method comprising:

determining whether the communication device has been inactive for a predetermined time period; and

causing the communication device to enter the dormant mode if it is determined that the communication device has been inactive for the predetermined time period.

11. In a communication device operating in a group communication network, a computer-readable medium embodying a method putting the communication device into a dormant mode, the method comprising:

receiving a command to enter a dormant mode; and

releasing a traffic channel associated with the communication device in response to the command.

[c12] 12. In a communication device operating in a group communication network, a computer-readable medium embodying a method for bringing the communication device out of a dormant mode, comprising:

receiving a floor-control request; and

bringing the communication device out of the dormant mode if the request is granted.

- [c13] 13. A communication device for providing a dormant mode, comprising: means for receiving a floor-control request; and means for bringing the communication device out of the dormant mode if the request is granted.
- [c14] 14. A communication device for providing a dormant mode, comprising:

 means for determining whether the communication device has been inactive for a predetermined time period; and

means for causing the communication device to enter the dormant mode if it is determined that the communication device has been inactive for the predetermined time period.

- 15. A communication device for providing a dormant mode, comprising:
 means for receiving a command to enter a dormant mode; and
 means for releasing a traffic channel associated with the communication device in
 response to the command.
- 16. A communication device for providing a dormant mode, comprising:

 a receiver to receive information over the network;

 a transmitter to transmit information over the network; and

 a processor communicatively coupled to the receiver and the transmitter, the processor being capable of:

determining whether the communication device has been inactive for a predetermined time period; and

causing the communication device to enter the dormant mode if it is determined that the communication device has been inactive for the predetermined time period.

- [c17] 17. A communication device for providing a dormant mode, comprising:
 - a receiver to receive information over the network;
 - a transmitter to transmit information over the network; and
 - a processor communicatively coupled to the receiver and the transmitter, the processor being capable of:

receiving a command to enter a dormant mode; and

releasing a traffic channel associated with the communication device in response to the command.

[c18] 18. A communication device for providing a dormant mode, comprising:

a receiver to receive information over the network;

a transmitter to transmit information over the network; and

a processor communicatively coupled to the receiver and the transmitter, the processor being capable of:

receiving a floor-control request; and

bringing the communication device out of the dormant mode if the request is granted.